

# ROTHER VOLUNTARY ACTION

## E-BULLETIN

Edition 19  
Jan 2010



25 Cinque Ports Street  
Rye  
East Sussex  
TN31 7AD  
☎ 01797 229750

Old Bank Chambers  
1 Buckhurst Road  
Bexhill  
TN40 1QF  
☎ 01424 217259

Chairman: Jo Kirkham

Email: [tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk](mailto:tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk)

Visit: [www.rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk](http://www.rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk)

Company No: 05333784 Registered Charity No: 1117546

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
to all our readers

## NEWS

**BIG EVENT 2010** facing the future - get support for your organisation or group.  
20th January 2010, 10am to 4pm, Congress Suite, Congress Theatre, Eastbourne.  
Annual Conference and Advice Fair. FREE EVENT for Voluntary and Community groups and organisations based anywhere in East Sussex. The Advice Fair will offer lots of countywide and local information to take home, face to face contact with people like funding advisors and a chance to book further one to one sessions, trainings or events. Chance to network with other groups and public sector partners from across the East Sussex. Chance to meet [SpeakUp Representatives](#). Download a [flyer](#).

## ARRCC IS EXPANDING TO BEXHILL

The Rye ARRCC Team are opening in the Thornwood Centre, Sidley starting on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010, the centre will initially be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays to provide day care for clients who have early to mid stage dementia and adults with physical disabilities. Tutors and staff from Rye will be offering similar activities that are available at the Rye centre. There are a variety of stimulating activities in a supportive, caring environment, tailored to people's individual needs, these include music, art and exercise. For further information please telephone ARRCC on 01797 229368 or you are very welcome to pop by on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 or Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January between 10.00 and 2.00.

## LICENSING FEES TO PLAY MUSIC

Charities could be forced to pay millions of pounds more in licensing fees to play music at fundraising events and in shops. Charities and community groups have been left outraged by the Government decision to introduce rules so that charities are no longer exempt from paying one of two licensing bodies to play recorded music in their own premises. Charities already pay fees to the Performing Rights Society (PRS), which represents music writers, composers and publishers, but not to the Phonographic Performance Limited (PPL), which represents the interests of music producers and performers. Under the new system, from April, they would pay one larger fee to be split between the PRS and PPL.

A new system of charging will now make it impossible for small local groups to play music because they simply can't afford it, even when it is just Scouts or Guides having a Friday evening disco or older people having a Sunday afternoon tea dance, says the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). Stuart Etherington, Chief Executive of NCVO said: "It is shameful that money intended for charitable causes will go on paying royalties for playing music. Events like these often raise no more than a few hundred pounds but this is vital income for charities. This scheme will make it impossible for small community based charities or organisations to play music at their social and fundraising events because of the cost involved. It will effectively spell the death of the charity tea dance in a village hall or a fundraising disco in aid of a good cause. We call on PPL and PRS for Music to review this decision and not charge organisations that are fundraising for the good of their community."

NCVO also warns that the real cost will be higher than the millions to be charged as small community groups and charities unable to afford a licence will cancel fundraising events such as charity discos. Liz Atkins, of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), which is leading a campaign against the rule change, said: "Many charities run on shoestring budgets of less than £10,000 a year and rely on these small fundraising events to help them survive. "This is a shameful way to treat voluntary organisations that help some of the most disadvantaged people in our society."

RVA's parent body NAVCA has been invited to a meeting with Angela Smith, Minister for the Third Sector early in the New Year and are asking for any views members have and any specific examples we can use to show how this will harm local groups. If you are aware of any such issues affecting your own group please let us know and we will pass the information on to NAVCA.

### CARE QUALITY COMMISSION REGISTRATION

All health and adult social care providers, who provide regulated activities, will be required by law to register with the Care Quality Commission from April 2010. To do so providers must show they are meeting new essential standards of quality and safety across all of the regulated activities they provide. More details can be found at:

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/guidanceforprofessionals/registration>

### EAST SUSSEX LINK

#### Breast Screening in East Sussex

**Can you help?** LINK have been informed that some women are waiting for a long time to receive an appointment for breast screening in East Sussex. LINK would really like to know if you have any experiences of this service, good or bad, by contacting the office on 01323 514510 or [info@thecountylink.net](mailto:info@thecountylink.net).

#### Meetings in Public

LINK next meeting in public is on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Robertsbridge Village Hall. Following the format of our previous meetings held in 2009, there will be a meeting to discuss Mental Health issues from 10.30 – 12.45pm with a second meeting from 1.30 – 3.45pm discussing Putting People First. Please let them know if you would like to attend one or both meetings or if you would like a copy of the reports from the previous meeting by contacting the office on 01323 514510 or [info@thecountylink.net](mailto:info@thecountylink.net).

### IMPROVING WELL-BEING IN BME COMMUNITIES

A conference to raise awareness of mental health needs views and aspirations of Black and minority ethnic (BME) people in East Sussex. We are working in partnership to address potential stigma, discrimination and improve access to mental health services. The day will include workshops, free networking lunch, art, stalls and more. Open to: BME people, statutory, voluntary, faith and community groups and other organisations with an interest in BME mental health and equality.

Tuesday 2 February 2010, 9.30am to 4pm at The International Lawn Tennis Centre Eastbourne BN21 4BP. To reserve a place, please contact the Central Support Team on: Phone: 01273 481 565 Email: [policy&strategyadmin@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:policy&strategyadmin@eastsussex.gov.uk) by Thursday 14 January 2010.

## FUNDING

### LITTLE CHEYNE COURT WIND FARM COMMUNITY GRANTS

Grants of up to £5000 are available from the Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm. Community groups operating within 7km of the wind farm can apply through Sussex Community Foundation for grants to help with projects benefiting the community. Panels meet twice a year and the next deadline is 26 February 2010. For more details please visit SCF's website at [www.sussexgiving.org.uk](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk) or call 01273 409440

### DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE FOR A GRASSROOTS GRANT

Are you part of a community group in East Sussex? Do you have a constitution? Is your turnover less than £30,000 a year? Could you do with a grant of up to £5000? Grassroots Grants will fund a wide range of projects and activities. For more information please contact Sussex Community Foundation on 01273 409440 email [info@sussexgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@sussexgiving.org.uk) or visit [www.sussexgiving.org.uk](http://www.sussexgiving.org.uk)

## CHILDREN IN NEED LAUNCHES NEW GRANTS PROGRAMME

Funding of up to £10,000 a year for three years available to organisations working with young people

[Children in Need](#) is offering small grants of up to £10,000 a year for three years for third sector organisations working with children and young people.

It is the first time the organisation has run a UK-wide small grants programme, and follows a pilot in Scotland. The scheme is designed to reach organisations that have not previously considered applying for Children in Need funding.

Grants will be allocated in four tranches, with application deadlines on 15 January, 15 April, 15 July and 15 October.

Any not-for-profit organisation working with children and young people under the age of 18 can apply, with some exclusions such as projects carrying out medical research or promoting religion. Decisions are expected to be made within 14 weeks of the closing date of each round.

Funding will be allocated at local level through seven regional UK bases in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Click here to make an [application](#).

From Third Sector 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010

## MAY GURNEY FUND

Has £20,000 to give out to community based charities/organisations which help young people and the long-term unemployed and the difficult to employ get back into work through activities focused on: education, self help, health and well being and local environment issues.

The Fund will target smaller charities that demonstrate genuine local community engagement.

The Fund will make small grants up to a maximum of £5000 and will be distributed annually.

Deadline for applications is 25 January. Phone: 01273 409440 or Email:

[mary.carruthers@sussexgiving.org.uk](mailto:mary.carruthers@sussexgiving.org.uk) for further details.

## VCASHPOINT

VCASHPOINT is giving away £1 million to 16 – 25 year olds in England with good ideas. If you have got an idea for a volunteering project to improve your community, you could get your hands on a grant to make your idea a reality. The next 2 rounds of vashpoint are now open for application. Deadlines are: 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010 and 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010. Visit the website

[www.vinspired.com/vcashpoint](http://www.vinspired.com/vcashpoint) tel: 0800 089 9000 or email [vcashpointenquiries@bss.org](mailto:vcashpointenquiries@bss.org)

## CONSULTATIONS

### CONSULTATION ON COUNCILS' DUTY TO RESPOND

Draft guidance published for consultation sets out how local councils should respond to petitions. The news item at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1400317> highlights four key areas, around schools, hospitals, alcohol related crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour. 'Listening to communities: Consultation on draft statutory guidance on the duty to respond to petitions' runs to 24<sup>th</sup> February <http://preview.tinyurl.com/ygfw5x>.

### NEW PATIENTS RIGHTS

This consultation proposes new patients rights to:

- Treatment within a maximum of 18 weeks from a GP referral and to be seen by a cancer specialist within 2 weeks from a GP referral, or where this not possible, for the NHS to take reasonable steps to offer a range of alternative providers; and
- NHS Health Checks for those aged 40 to 74 to assess their risk of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease

Following the commitment in Building Britain's Future to strengthen advocacy and redress systems, the consultation also seeks views on the proposed role of the Constitution Champion. Consultation runs until 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010

For further information or to take part please go to

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultation/Liveconsultation/DH\\_108012](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultation/Liveconsultation/DH_108012)

### PUTTING OUR PLANS INTO ACTION FOR CARERS

The new Joint Commissioning Strategy for Carers' Services 2010-2015 was launched by Adult Social Care and the local PCTs on Carers Rights Day, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2009. All the plans are available on the Council's website, at:

[www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/2009/supportforcarers](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/2009/supportforcarers)

An Action Plan now needs to be developed to take forward the different strands of work. To start off the process there will be an event on **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February** at **Horntye Park in Hastings**. Local carers are needed to go along to help prioritise and plan. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Any transport and alternative care costs will be paid. **If you are a carer** and are interested in getting involved, please contact Debbie Charman, Strategic Commissioning Manager – Carers, on 01273-482159 (email: [Debbie.charman@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Debbie.charman@eastsussex.gov.uk)).

## **TRAINING**

### **BME WORKSHOPS**

Thanks to a small grant from Regional Empowerment Partnership the following sessions for BME organisations in East Sussex will be available:-

**13<sup>th</sup> January** “Older People and Adult Social Care Services in East Sussex” **Workshop**  
Speakers to be invited: Adult Social Care at ESCC and Age Concern

**24<sup>th</sup> February** “Community Safety and BME people in East Sussex” **Workshop**  
Speakers to be invited: Sussex Police, Safer Communities Partnership and Victim Support Charity

**31<sup>st</sup> March** “Celebrating Our Voice” BME Voluntary and Community Sector Annual **Event/Conference**

Detailed time to be confirmed but to take place in space between **3pm and 6pm**.  
Tel 01273 483832 for further details.

### **‘GLOBAL VOICES’ – CLASSROOM VISITORS TRAINING PROGRAMME**

The Pestalozzi Outreach Education Programme is looking for volunteers from the Black and Minority Ethnic communities in East Sussex to join their free training programme to become ‘Global Voices’. The aim of the programme is to enhance schools’ responsibility towards promoting community cohesion through training local people to become classroom visitors.

Volunteers will be asked to attend 2 or 3 training sessions. The first training session for the next group of volunteers is on Wednesday 3 February 2010 at Pestalozzi. If interested please contact Lesley Shareif for more information on 01424 870444 or email:

[lesley.shareif@pestalozzi.org.uk](mailto:lesley.shareif@pestalozzi.org.uk) [www.pestalozzi.org.uk](http://www.pestalozzi.org.uk)

### **3VA TRAINING**

The 3VA training brochure 2009/10 can be accessed at <http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/training.php> below is some of the courses they have on offer:-

#### **Taking time to manage your time**

Wednesday 20 January 2010, 9.30am – 12.30pm

3VA Lewes, 66 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1XG

This course is for anyone for whom success hinges upon their ability to manage time effectively. Cost per person £25 - £35 depending on status. Closing date for bookings: Wednesday 6 January 2010.

#### **Introduction to Public Relations**

Wednesday 10 February 2010, 9.30am – 12.30pm, Yarrow Room, Town Hall, High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2QS. Closing date for bookings: Wednesday 27 January 2010.

#### **Race Equality**

Wednesday 24 February 2010, 9.30am - 4.30pm, Yarrow Room, Town Hall, High Street, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2QS. Cost per person: £35 - £60 depending on status.

#### **Effective Volunteer Management –working with young volunteers**

3VA in partnership with involved are pleased to offer a course that will help you recruit and involve young people as volunteers with your organisations.

£10 per person (to include a light lunch), normally this training would be in the region of £50. The courses are to be held on Monday 8 March 2010 in the 3VA Eastbourne Annexe, 8 Saffrons Road, **Eastbourne**, BN21 1DG (entrance in Old Orchard Road) and repeated on Thursday 15 April 2010 in the Yarrow Room at Lewes Town Hall, High Street, **Lewes**, from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm on each day.

A booking form can be found at <http://www.southdownscvs.org.uk/information-and-training/documents/bookingform.doc> For further details on all South Downs CVS Training

programme please contact (3VA Lewes) Julia Fowler on 01273 483832, [julia.fowler@3va.org.uk](mailto:julia.fowler@3va.org.uk) or (3VA Eastbourne Sue Duffell on 01323 639373, [sue.duffell@3va.org.uk](mailto:sue.duffell@3va.org.uk)

## **SNIPPETS**

### **WORKING WITH LOCAL COUNCILS ON GREEN ISSUES**

'Green Up! Five ways of working with your council on sustainability: a practical guide for community and voluntary groups' has been published by the Community Development Foundation. The "plain English" guide explains how community groups can use everything from Local Area Agreements to Sustainable Community Strategies to get their work supported, and explains the jargon often used by local councils.

<http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/publication?id=142955>. (Source: Defra Third Sector blog)

### **CHARITY COMMISSION'S NEW MODEL CONSTITUTION FOR CHARITIES**

A new, simplified constitution for very small charities has been launched by the Charity Commission in partnership with umbrella bodies across the sector. The new constitution is designed to provide a concise, practical framework for charities with an income of under £5,000. It uses clear, direct language that is easy to understand, is only 700 words long and covers all the requirements for a very small charity which does not own land or employ staff.

Charities with an income of less than £5,000 do not need to register with the Commission, but are still subject to charity law. If the income of the charity grows larger than £5,000, the charity will need to register with the Commission and will need a more comprehensive governing document.

This constitution is a useful addition to the range of other model constitutions produced by the Commission and other organisations.

Download the constitution here:

[http://www.smallcharities.org.uk/fileadmin/user/john/Small\\_Charities\\_Constitution.doc](http://www.smallcharities.org.uk/fileadmin/user/john/Small_Charities_Constitution.doc)

Find out more information on the Charity Commission's website:

<http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/registration/smallcharity.asp>

### **LEGAL AND GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE FOR FAITH CHARITIES**

The Charity Commission has published a guide to help faith-based charities establish strong trustee bodies and good practice, launched for National Inter Faith Week. It brings together aspects of the legal and good practice framework which are most likely to be of relevance to faith-based charities. 'Faith in Good Governance' is at

<http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/tcc/faithgov.asp>, Commission news item at

<http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/news/prfaith.asp>.

### **HELP AT HAND**

Sky's Accessible Remote Control has been named as the first winner of an Age OK product accreditation. The special remote, free to any Sky subscriber, is designed to help people with visual impairment or dexterity difficulties. If you, or someone you know, with Sky would benefit from this remote, please call 0844 241 0333 or email

[accessiblecustomerservice@bskyb.com](mailto:accessiblecustomerservice@bskyb.com) for details.

### **FIND OUT WHAT'S ON IN ROTHER AND EAST SUSSEX ONLINE**

A FREE online events diary for East Sussex has been launched.

The MyEvents website will allow community groups the chance to publicise their gigs, exhibitions, performances and festivals to a wider audience. It has been set up by the East Sussex Arts Partnership, which comprises cultural officers from Rother, Eastbourne, Hastings, Lewes and Wealden.

The site uses Google Checkout to offer an online booking system which means promoters, with the use of a Google account, can sell their tickets online. They are also able to promote their gigs by uploading flyers, uploading music from the event and providing any last minutes details or changes through the site.

Once signed up the promoters will become part of an events network which the partnership are looking to develop to include other events and festivals. Through this network arts and cultural officers will also be able to keep up to date with what's taking place across the region and work more closely with promoters to better help them and facilitate further events.

Visit the site at [www.myevents.org.uk](http://www.myevents.org.uk)

## **FREE MICROSOFT WINDOWS UPGRADES**

Charity Technology Exchange and Microsoft are making Windows 7 upgrades available for the administrative fee of £5.00 per work station for Windows 7 Professional Upgrade and £6.00 per work station for Windows 7 Enterprise Upgrade.

This donation is available only to organisations that meet the Microsoft eligibility requirements. These include registered charities working in particular areas - see [http://www.ctxchange.org/getting\\_started/eligibility\\_criteria/microsoft\\_eligibility\\_criteria](http://www.ctxchange.org/getting_started/eligibility_criteria/microsoft_eligibility_criteria) for more details. To request the donation, you must register your organisation with CTX at [http://www.ctxchange.org/getting\\_started/registering\\_organisation](http://www.ctxchange.org/getting_started/registering_organisation) if you have not already done so.

## **DATES & EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARIES**

**RYE NETWORK:** 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - The School Creative Centre, New Road, Rye at 2pm  
**MUDDY BOOTS (Battle area Network):** February 11<sup>th</sup> 2010 - The Watch Oak, Battle, 2pm  
**BEXHILL COMMUNITY NETWORK:** March 10<sup>th</sup> 2010 – Bexhill Town Hall at 2pm

## **DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING? LIVING IN BATTLE?**

The next meeting at Battle will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010, 2pm – 3.30pm at the Battle Medical Centre, Telham House, 13 Mitre Way.

The title for January's talk is, "Types of Deafness." What are the different types of deafness and how are they caused? What is conductive deafness? What is nerve deafness? Come alone and find out the answers to these and many other questions.

For further information please contact: David Rowan, East Sussex Hearing Resource Centre, 8 St Leonard's Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 3UH •Tel: 01323 722505

Email: [david@eshrc.org.uk](mailto:david@eshrc.org.uk)

**THE HASTINGS AND ROTHER HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FORUM** will be holding it's A.G.M. on the 23rd of February at the Horntye Sports centre in Hastings. 10.30-1pm Andrew Boxall from ESCC will be speaking on the County Contact. For more details contact Dave Rogers at [daverogers414@hoitmail.com](mailto:daverogers414@hoitmail.com)

## **GET RVA NEWS AS AN RSS FEED ON YOUR HOMEPAGE – CLICK ON THIS LINK**

<http://www.google.com/ig/add?feedurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk%2Fnews%2Ffeed>

RVA would like your short films about your community or local events or your opinions about things happening in your community. If you would like us to highlight news or issues contact Tina for more information at [tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk](mailto:tina.hall@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk)

The Bexhill office has a small meeting room that can be used by any voluntary or community group. In addition we can provide photocopying services for groups in the Rye office.

*Disclaimer: we check all information in the newsletter and web site, but as ever with these things we give no warranties, and encourage active checking before you make any decisions.*